

# CC bests Frontier

By SAM KING  
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By his own admission, Austin Munn has been in a hitting slump.

After striking out with the bases loaded in the third inning of Monday night's Class A, Sectional 53 championship game at Leming Field, Munn got a second chance an inning later.

The left-handed junior busted out of his slump and broke open a tie game with a monstrous grand slam, helping the third-ranked Knights top No. 1 Frontier 9-7 and win their third straight sectional title.

"When we play them, we always know it's the biggest game of the year, no matter what," Munn said. "Once that ball left the bat and you watch it, it's just the greatest feeling in the world. Especially in a game like this."

Munn's grand slam highlighted a six-run fourth inning after Frontier had scored three runs in the top half to take a 3-1 lead.

## CC REGIONAL

Saturday

Seton Catholic vs. Wes-Del, 11 a.m.

Central Catholic (21-9) vs.

Rockville, 1 p.m.

Championship, 8 p.m.



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PHOTO GALLERY

**Snapshots:** View a collection of pictures by J&C photographer John Terhune from the Central Catholic-Frontier game.

"We gave them base runners. They were able to capitalize," Frontier coach Ryan Long said. "They swung the bats as well as they have all year."

It was the fourth time in five seasons CC and Frontier met in the sectional championship. CC's fourth sectional title in that stretch ended Frontier's 17-game winning streak and finished the Falcons' season at 25-5.

"For us and Catholic, it's just unfortunate we are in the same

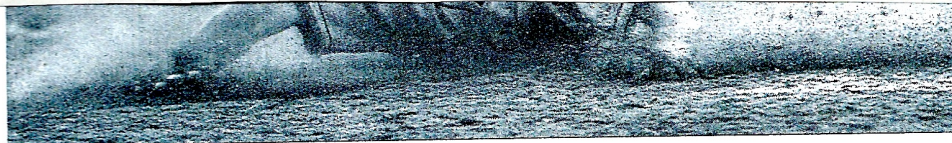
sectional," Long said. "They've had a great program and put state championships up. In five years, what's been considered two of the better teams (in the state), somebody has to go home (in the sectional). There's nothing we can do about that."

Devin Morgan's sacrifice fly in the bottom of the second gave CC a 1-0 lead in what was gearing up to be a pitcher's duel between Frontier's Travis Demerly and CC's Brett Haan.

Haan (5-4) gave up just four hits over 6 $\frac{1}{2}$  innings but struggled with control during Frontier's three-run fourth. Haan walked three and gave up a three-run double to Zach Lehe on a ball misplayed in right field by Munn.

"I thought that was huge to stop the bleeding there at three. Brett could have hung his head, but he battled and got us out of that inning," CC coach Tim Bordenet said. "After we got the lead back, he was a little different pitcher."

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Frontier's Brandon Gallinger slides safely home on Zach Lehe's three-run double in the top of the fourth inning against Central Catholic. (BY JOHN TERHUNE/JOURNAL & COURIER)

## CC

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He had a fresh breath of air."

The Knights pulled within 3-2 on a throwing error, and freshman Evan Kennedy doubled in the tying run. Kennedy scored the go-ahead run on Munn's grand slam.

Kennedy was 2-for-3 off the hard-throwing Demerly (7-3) in his first sectional championship game.

"The last couple weeks of the season he's been hitting for us, and we liked that matchup with him against Demerly," Bordenet said. "It turned out to be true tonight. He is so calm for a freshman. He doesn't get rattled."

Demerly homered in the top of the fifth, but was matched by Andrew Hubertz's solo homer in the

bottom of the inning. Jake Churchill doubled in a run to put CC up 9-4.

It almost wasn't enough. An error, hit batsman and a walk loaded the bases with one out in the seventh. Munn replaced Haan on the mound with Demerly coming to the plate.

Munn got Demerly down two strikes with breaking balls, then pounded the outside corner with a fastball to get him looking.

"If you saw me in the outfield after that, I was going crazy," said Nick Stone, who was 2-for-3. "I know Munn gets really pumped up. He pumped it in there, and Demerly couldn't handle it."

Silas Maxwell followed with a two-run single, bringing Hunter Gladish to the plate representing the tying run. Gladish hit a high chopper to third base, and Hubertz threw to first

for the final out.

## Semifinals

Frontier needed six innings to defeat Clinton Prairie 10-0. Senior Dylan Cain hit a pair of three-run homers and Maxwell added a pair of RBI doubles.

Gladish (11-1) struck out 11.

Central Catholic trailed 2-0 after a half inning but would go on to put Rossville away 13-2 in five innings.

After Cullun Hack's RBI single, Munn and Hubertz made sure that would be Rossville's only hit of the game. Munn retired the next 10 Hornets in order and Hubertz pitched a perfect fifth.

Churchill was 3-for-4 with five RBIs, including a pair of two-run homers. Ryan DeBoy tied the game in the bottom of the first with a two-run homer. Stone was 3-for-4.